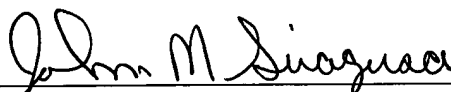


REMARKS

Applicant has amended this application to add section hearings and delete multiple dependences in the claims. Applicant respectfully requests examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.



John M. Siragusa
Registration No. 46,174
Attorneys for Applicant
400 West Maple Road, Suite 350
Birmingham, Michigan 48009
(248) 988-8360

Dated: April 23, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

"EXPRESS MAIL" Mailing Label No. EL668871506US Date of Deposit April 23, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner Box PCT, Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D. C. 20231.



Theresa M. Palmateer

APPENDIX A

Version with markings to show changes made

2. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in Claim 1 in which the pivot axis passes through the body portion.

3. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in Claim 1 [or 2] in which the pivot axis is proximate that end of the motor remote from the pinion.

4. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in [any proceeding] [c]Claim 1 in which the gear rack includes at least one stop to limit movement of the rack relative to the body portion.

5. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in Claim 4 in which [the or] each stop engages the drive shaft.

6. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in Claim 5 in which [the or] each stop engages a portion of the drive shaft on the side of the pinion remote from the motor.

7. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in [any preceding claim] Claim 4 in which the drive shaft passes between the array of gear teeth and a guide portion proximate the gear teeth.

8. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in Claim 7 [when dependent on any one of Claim 4-6] in which the guide portion is supported by [the or] each stop.

9. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in [any preceding claim] Claim 1 which further includes a housing in which the motor is secured.

10. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in Claim 9 in which the pivot is mounted on the housing.

11. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in Claim 9 [or 10] in which the pivot includes a boss of the gear rack to which in use a lever is attached.

12. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in Claim 11 in which the boss at least partially projects through the housing.

13. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in [any one of] Claim 9[-12] in which the drive shaft engages the housing.

14. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in any one of Claim 9[-13] in which the housing is substantially sealed.

15. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in any one of Claims 9[-14] in which the housing has at least a first and second part, the parts having co-operating cut-outs to provide for at least one end of the drive shaft.

16. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in [any one of Claims 1-9 or 11-15 when dependent upon Claim 9] Claim 1 in which the pivot is mounted on the body portion.

18. (Amended) [An] The actuator assembly as [defined] recited in [any preceding claim] Claim 17 in which the motor is an electric motor.